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To Victor Ketellapper/EPR/R8/USEPA/US@EPA

cc

bcc

Subject VB/I-70 2008/2009 Work Plan and Budget



History:  This message has been replied to.

Good morning Victor,

I hope you had a great weekend. Attached is the final draft of the work plan for the VB/I-70 Superfund Operable Unit 1 (VB/I-70). The work plan was developed through the efforts of the Denver Department of Environmental Health and George Weber, VB/I-70 consultant. A great deal of time and attention was given in developing the work plan and ensuring that the "end product" will be well worth the investment. I am requesting your feedback, as this work plan can be adjusted to fit your requests or needs. I am confident that you will find this work plan a valuable tool in providing for the required "institutional controls" and developing a "Model Guide for Implementing a Community Health Program". Thank you for your continued support and dedication to the lives and well-being of Region 8 residents. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Thank you,

Jay Salas
Program Manager



VB/I-70 CHP FINAL VB-I70 CHP 4 Work Plan and Budget (2) (2).doc

**VASQUEZ BUELEVARD / INTERSTATE 70 SUPERFUND SITE OPERABLE
UNIT 1 – RESIDENTIAL SOILS
COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM YEAR 4:
INSTITUTIONAL CONTROLS AND MODEL PROGRAM GUIDE**

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Cooperative Agreement is for the Community Health Program, Department of Environmental Health, City and County of Denver (CCD) to assist the EPA in achieving two goals:

- Establish and maintain institutional controls for residential soils at the Vasquez Boulevard / Interstate 70 Superfund Operable Unit 1 Site (VB/I70); and
- Develop a ‘Model Guide for Developing and Implementing a Community Health Program’.

BACKGROUND AND STATEMENT OF NEED

The EPA, in cooperation with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and the CCD, conducted a clean-up of residential soils within the VB/I-70 site that had elevated concentrations of lead and/or arsenic in accordance with the September 23, 2003 Record of Decision. Four thousand eight hundred sixty-three (4,863) residential properties are located within the site boundaries.

In order to carry out the cleanup, EPA asked homeowners for access to their property in order to take samples of the soil so that EPA could test it for the presence and level of lead and arsenic contamination. At properties where EPA found soils contaminated at levels judged to pose a potential health risk, the agency also asked these owners for permission to remove and replace the contaminated soil.

EPA made multiple attempts contact the property owners, by mailing letters and by attempting personal contact at the residence.

When EPA completed the VB/I-70 soils clean-up a relatively small number of property owners had not provided voluntary access enabling EPA to conduct the sampling and clean-up actions that the Record of Decision specified. Because of this, EPA has developed institutional controls to preserve knowledge of the identity of these properties, and thus mitigate the potential exposure and risk to current and future residents.

In order to implement these institutional controls, EPA is asking the CCD to do the following for all properties within the VB/I-70 site for which agency was unable to complete the Remedial Action:

1. Notify property owners and residents annually of all properties not addressed by the Remedial Action;

2. Conduct soil sampling for properties at the request of homeowners;
3. Provide health information concerning lead and arsenic exposure; and
4. Add these properties as appropriate to CCD databases so that contractors and/or homeowners seeking a building permit are notified of the potential contamination issues.

In addition to the soil sampling and remediation, EPA and the CCD developed and carried out the Community Health Program (CHP) for communities within the VB/I-70 site. The CHP is a unique community-health-education project, the character of which the EPA CERCLA Program has never before attempted at a Superfund site. EPA judges the CHP to be a national exemplar, and that it should be documented and evaluated fully so that the program components and 'lessons learned' from the experience can be transferred and applied to a wide array of environmental health issues in other communities and settings in the City of Denver, Region VIII states, and nationally.

In order to achieve this, the EPA is asking the CCD to:

5. Document and evaluate the CHP; and
6. Develop a guide for developing and carrying out a community-health-education program addressing an array of environmental health issues in other communities and settings.

TECHINICAL APPROACH

The CCD Project Team (Team) will conduct several general tasks to achieve each of EPA's two goals.

Goal 1: Establish and maintain institutional controls for residential soils at VB/I70 OU1

The Team will establish and maintain institutional controls for each of two cases of residences for which the EPA was unable to complete the Remedial Action by accomplishing four general tasks.

The two cases are:

- Priority 1: Properties (34) that have been sampled and found to have elevated levels of lead and/or arsenic, but which have NOT been remediated; and
- Priority 2: Properties (532) that have NOT been sampled.

The Team will accomplish six general tasks for each of these cases:

- Task 1.1 Develop a detailed field implementation plan;
- Task 1.2 Notify owner and resident annually;

- Task 1.3 Screen soils;
- Task 1.4 Develop and provide health information;
- Task 1.5 Providing support as appropriate for developing an interagency 'Property Flagging System'; and
- Task 1.6 Inform residents of site communities proactively regarding the 2008-2009 work activities and completion of the VB/170 OU1 Program.

The specific characteristics of each general work activity will differ somewhat between the Priority 1 and 2 cases as appropriate.

Task 1.1 will involve the Team in developing a schedule for conducting three phases of fieldwork, i.e., planning, implementation, and close-out. The Team will evaluate progress during each phase and make adjustments as necessary.

Task 1.2 will involve the Team in:

- Developing and mailing a letter annually that notifies the owner and residents of the status of the property; and
- Making one follow-up visit to the property in an effort to contact the residents.

The Team will mail a letter in 2008 and 2009. The 2009 mailing will be a final notification.

After 2009, EPA will add comments to appropriate databases of CCD departments (e.g., Assessor, Building, Zoning) so that they will be programmed to automatically 'flag' these properties when a party applies for a permit or makes other inquiries about the property. The flagging mechanism will direct the inquirer to the Department of Environmental Health to receive the health information packet that the Team will develop in Task 1.4. The Team will participate in the interagency effort to develop and implement this program as described in Task 1.5.

The Team will make one follow-up visit to each property in an effort to contact residents and provide educational health information during 2008. The Team member making the follow-up visit will enter the results of the follow-up visit into a PDA, and from there into the appropriate CHP database.

Task 1.3 will involve the Team in:

- Developing a protocol for screening soils using an XRF; and
- Making one on-site visit to conduct the screening – ONLY if the property owner or residents request this service.

The Team will NOT screen Priority 1 properties that EPA sampled and found contaminated previously, and whose owners and/or residents did not permit EPA to remediate. The Team will offer screening only during the 2008-2009 period of performance for this Cooperative Agreement.

Task 1.4 will involve the Team in:

- Developing a packet of health information directed to the owner and/or residents of Case 1 and 2 properties. CCD has this information but needs to reformat it to effectively inform owners and/or residents of the potential contamination issues and life style changes that potentially will reduce the risk of exposure to lead and arsenic contamination in their soils.
- Providing this packet of health information to the owner and/or residents at their request at the time of the initial site visit or at the time of the screening; and
- Arranging for appropriate CCD Departments (e.g., Assessor, Building, Zoning) to direct parties applying for permits or otherwise inquiring about these properties to the Department of Environmental Health to obtain the packet of health information (Task 1.5).

Task 1.5 will involve the Team in supporting CCD administrators of involved Departments (e.g., Environmental Health, Assessors, Building, Zoning) and public agencies (EPA, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment) in developing and implementing a system to 'flag' the properties that EPA has not been allowed to address. The Team is not the lead player in this new initiative required by law under legislation that the Colorado Legislature passed recently.

Task 1.6 will involve the Team in:

- Conducting two meetings with residents of communities within the VB/I-70 site; and
- Developing and distributing one newsletter to property owners and residents of communities within the VB/I-70 site.

The intent of these activities is to INFORM residents of, for example:

- Status of properties Priority 1 and 2 properties that EPA was NOT able to address fully;
- How EPA, in partnership with CDPHE and CCD will address these properties to protect health and safety of current and future residents;
- CHP work plan for 2008-2009; and
- Limited services (i.e., screening, information packet) that CHP will provide ONLY for this final year of the program.

The Team will plan and schedule the first meeting to occur within the first two months after EPA approves this scope of work and all members of the Team are in place.

The Team will develop and distribute the newsletter at the approximate mid-point of the period of performance for this scope of work.

The Team will plan and conduct the second meeting near the end of the period of performance. In addition to informing meeting participants of the topics above, the meeting will provide closure on what the VB/I-70 Program has accomplished and celebrate and honor its participants, including community members.

Goal 2: Develop a 'Model Guide for Developing and Implementing a Community Health Program

The Team will develop a 'Model Guide for Developing and Implementing a Community Health Program' (Guide). The purpose of the Guide will be to serve as a vehicle for transferring and applying the concept, means, and 'lessons learned' of the CHP experience to other environmental health issues and settings in other communities in the City of Denver, Region VIII states, and nation.

The work required to develop the Guide will be descriptive and evaluative.

The work will be descriptive in order to document CHP components, including:

- Mission, goals, and objectives;
- Activities conducted to achieve goals and objectives;
- Logic of how each activity relates to achieving goals and objectives;
- Program structure, including organization, staffing, and procedures; and
- Tools (e.g., staff training and outreach materials; data base structure for monitoring contacts with target population and outcomes) developed and used; and
- Products.

The work will be evaluative in order to identify 'lessons learned'. This will ensure that the Guide benefits from the CHP experience, and that it is applicable to a wider array of issues and settings. With regard to the evaluation, EPA is particularly interested in outcomes plausibly attributed to the CHP, and the role that stakeholder assessment, involvement, and mobilization played.

The Team will achieve Goal 2 by conducting five general tasks:

- Task 2.1 Develop detailed work plan and schedule.
- Task 2.2 Develop the overarching conceptual framework for characterizing and evaluating the CHP;
- Task 2.3 Identify and develop data required for describing and evaluating the CHP;

- Task 2.4 Analyze data and develop recommendations; and
- Task 2.5 Design and develop the final Guide.

Task 2.1 will involve the Team in developing a detailed work plan and schedule to accomplishing Goal 2 work activities. Given the character of the work activities required to accomplish Goal 2, including that some will be conducted concurrently, the Team will continue to specify subsequent work activities (e.g., data and Guide development) and schedule as the complete earlier work activities (e.g., develop conceptual framework, identify data required).

Task 2.2 will involve the Team in developing an overarching conceptual model of the CHP that is holistic, comprehensive, and logical. The Team will use the conceptual model to guide the subsequent descriptive and evaluative work activities, ensuring that it makes CHP components and the logic relating them explicit, and describes and evaluates the CHP in a systematic and detailed manner. The Team anticipates that this conceptual framework will provide the organization for the final Guide.

Task 2.3 will involve the Team in identifying the specific data that will be required to describe and evaluate the CHP. The Team anticipates that most of the data required for describing and documenting the CHP are readily available in a variety of CHP documents that it has produced already (e.g., year end reports) . The Team will need to compile and reformat this material as appropriate for the current scope of work. The Team knows that it will need to develop additional new data in order to evaluate the CHP, particularly its outcomes and the role of stakeholder assessment, mobilization, and involvement, particular interests of EPA and CHP staff. An important example is obtaining the perceptions of key CHP actors, including representatives of the served community, regarding aspects of the CHP, including what worked well, what did not, and what improvements the Team should consider making.

Task 2.4 will involve the Team in analyzing the data to identify the ‘lessons learned’ from the CHP experience, and developing recommendations regarding how the overarching model and CHP components should be modified to improve the model program and make it more generally applicable.

Task 2.5 will involve the Team in designing and developing a final Guide. The Team will provide EPA one paper hard copy, and one digital copy on CD.

ESTIMATED BUDGET

The Team proposes the following as the estimated budget. The Team developed the Goal 1 estimates based on the level of effort and costs required for conducting similar activities during the previous three years of the CHP.

CATEGORY	GOAL 1: INSTITUTIONAL CONTROLS	GOAL 2: MODEL CHP GUIDE	TOTAL
PERSONNEL (SALARY AND FRINGE)	\$81,130	\$112,104	\$193,234
Berenice Ornelas	\$23,182	\$35,000	\$58,182
Edgar Ornelas	\$19,389	\$2,100	\$21,489
Jay Salas	\$17,958	\$26,937	\$44,895
Elizabeth Schiffman	\$20,601	\$48,067	\$68,668
TRAINING	\$750	\$750	\$1,500
PRINTING	\$1,500	\$500	\$2,000
MAILING	\$1,800	\$200	\$2,000
SUPPLIES	\$400	\$400	\$800
EQUIPMENT *	\$31,000	n/a	\$31,000
TRAVEL	\$4,000	n/a	\$4,000
APHA Conference	\$3,300	n/a	\$3,300
CEHA Conference	\$700	n/a	\$700
MILEAGE	\$200	\$100	\$300
CONTRACTOR	\$10,590	\$19,410	\$30,000
SUB- TOTAL/TOTAL	\$134,370	\$133,464	\$264,834

* Includes purchase of XRF to conduct soils screenings.

CONSULTANT BIO

George Weber, Inc. Environmental

George Weber is a consultant with more than 30 years of experience specializing in environmental policy analysis, planning, and implementation; stakeholder involvement and training; natural resource management; and community development and regional planning. He has managed or participated in more than 50 projects supporting federal, Tribal, state, and local government agencies, and business and special interest group clients. He has authored, coauthored, or directed development of more than 60 reports and publications, and has planned and conducted, presented, or facilitated at 19 conferences, workshops, panels, or significant meetings.

Recent projects have addressed Superfund Site clean-up, National Environmental Policy Act implementation, and Homeland Security and emergency response planning. He has particular expertise in public participation and stakeholder involvement. A unique aspect of the latter is that he has developed and applied an approach for researching, analyzing, and facilitating development of collaborating networks of stakeholders to address shared problems, particularly relating to carrying out environmental policies and projects. Much of Weber's work during the past twenty years has applied this stakeholder assessment and mobilization approach to supporting local, state, Tribal, and federal Safe Drinking Water, Ground Water, and Clean Water programs.

George Weber, Inc. has been supporting the VB/I-70 Superfund Clean-up over the past several years by:

- Assisting in developing the Feasibility Study and Record of Decision for VB/I-70 OU3, particularly conducting the community relations for the project.
- Planning and facilitating the VB/I-70 OU1 Working Group, by providing a forum for community representatives, CCD, and other State and local governmental agencies to provide input to EPA about environmental clean-up requirements at the VB/I-70 Site.
- Applying its 'stakeholder assessment and mobilization' approach to develop an assessment of and strategy for mobilizing VB/I-70 stakeholders. The assessment had three goals: (1) Identify influential community leaders and organizations in the varied communities within the VB/I-70 Site that EPA had not identified already; (2) Develop a strategic action plan for obtaining the support and involvement of this community leadership in Program implementation in order to obtain full participation of Site residents, while avoiding existing and potential conflicts among the different communities and groups within the Site; and (3) Provide an example of an analytical approach to involving stakeholders that could be used synergistically with the standard, largely descriptive, EPA Community Relations approach that could be transferred and applied to other efforts addressing environmental issues in other communities and settings.